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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

S-E-C-R-E-T

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COUNTRY Poland

REPORT

SUBJECT Polish Coking Plants and Foundries (Expansion of coking facilities and foundry description - coking plants planned for Egypt)

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

A report containing(a) limited information on the expansion and renovation of certain Polish coking plants and (b) information on Polish foundries including a sketch of the Bobrek Foundry which is located between Zabrze (Hindenburg) and Bytom (Beuthen)

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Coking Plants

1. The Kokso-Projekt Bureau at Zabrze, located in a three-story building at 302 Wolnosci Street, Warsaw, was responsible for the planning of coke processing plants and installations. The staff included 250 engineers, technicians, draughtsmen, and office personnel. The bureau, under the immediate control of the Ministry of Foundries (Ministerstwo Hutnictwa), is also responsible for expansion of existing plants, designing new installations such as roasting ovens, mechanisms for closing furnace doors, feeder devices, gas installations, coke transporting trolleys, and coke-cooling trucks (?). The bureau occasionally supervised the execution of the plans.

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2. The bureau's plans for the establishment of coking plants were usually based on the Becker (German) and Gibrokoks (Soviet) types of coking ovens. These models resembled each other both in

size and in quality and were composed of 24 to 48 chambers, each chamber being approximately 10 x ½ x 3 (height) meters.

3. The following projects had been planned by the bureau for early 1956:

a. Expansion and renovation of the Koksownia Walenty plant located between Zabrze (N50-19 E18-47) and Nowy Bytom (N50-17 E18-53). Three new coking batteries, composed of 48 chambers each, were to be added.

b. Rehabilitation of the Koksownia Boleslaw Chrobry plant at Walbrzych (N50-46 E16-17). The plans had been completed and work had begun under the bureau's supervision.

c. Planning of an additional coking installation at the Knurow (N50-13 E18-40) coking plant.

d. Expansion of the Koksownia Zabrze plant, located near the Makoszow mine at Zabrze.

e. Renovation of the equipment at the Gliwice (N50-17 E18-40) coking plant, near thelocal coal mine.

f. A plan for a coking plant in Bulgaria was being worked out, and a Bulgarian representative was permanently attached to the bureau.

g. Negotiations were conducted on the establishment of a coking plant in [redacted] under the supervision of Polish engineers. The Zabrze Planning Bureau was to have handled the designs for the plant.

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Foundries

4. The Bobrek foundry, located between Zabrze and Bytom, was a pre-war plant which had been expanded and rehabilitated by the Poles. It was subordinate to the Central Directorate of Foundries at Katowice. The foundry employed 6,000 persons working in three shifts to process iron ore into steel ingots and structural steel.

5. The Bobrek foundry had the following equipment:

a. Three 30-meter high furnaces; an old machine to be dismantled, and two others which had been renovated by the Poles. Each of the furnaces could process 600-700 cubic meters of iron ore during a 24-hour period.

b. The steel plant had seven Martin furnaces, each with a capacity of 60-80 tons and an output of 2-2½ charges per day. It was also equipped with casting molds, tools for preparing the molds, hoisting machinery, and steel-cleaning facilities.

c. The coking plant had two Bekcer ovens which were obsolete and in need of overhaul.

d. The ore roasting plant (Anglomerownia) had 15 box-shaped steel ovens (Piece Skrzyniowe).

e. The rolling mill (Walcownia) had a new slabbing installation (Zgniatacz) of Soviet manufacture with a pressure of up to 1,000 tons and a capability of

drawing steel slabs up to a thickness of 24 mm., an old machine for cutting steel ingots with a pressure capacity of up to 1000 tons, and two rolling drawing installations (Walcownia Ciagla) for railroad rails and structural steel beams.

f. The ore-roasting plant kept a two-month stock of ore on hand.

6. The Nowy Bytom foundry, located in Nowy Bytom, was a primitive Polish plant. Although larger in area and staff than the Bobrek foundry, its production capacity was so inferior that the plant may have had to close. The foundry had the following equipment:

a. Four furnaces, of 500-600 cu.m. capacity each.

b. A steel plant.

c. A coking plant.

d. An ore roasting plant.

e. A rolling mill (producing sheet steel for ships and armored vehicles).

f. A plant for the manufacture of railroad truck wheels and locomotive axles.

7. The Kosciuszko foundry in Chorzow which had a greater production than the foundry at Bobrek, included the following equipment:

a. Three furnaces (two modernized, with a capacity of 800 cu.m. each).

b. Ten Martin furnaces in the steel casting division.

c. An ore roasting plant which has a conveyor-belt system.

d. A plant for the manufacture of railroad trucks and locomotive axles.

8. The Beldon foundry at Katowice, a pre-war plant which had been renovated and expanded, processed special steels and operated solely with electric casting furnaces. This enterprise was regarded to a certain degree as an experimental plant in the field of special steel production.

9. The Czestochowa (N50-48 E19-07) foundry was a small, pre-war plant having a single furnace. Two additional furnaces and other installations were being built.

10. The Labedy foundry manufactures armor plates for armored vehicles and was equipped with six Martin furnaces. It had no blast furnaces.

11. The Szczecin foundry, a German pre-war plant which had been renovated, included two furnaces, a steel casting and ore roasting plant.

12. The Szopienice (Huta Metali Kolorowych) (N50-16 E19-07) foundry manufactured non-ferrous metals. The equipment and installations of this pre-war Polish plant were obsolete.

13. The Zaklady Metalurgiczne (Metallurgical Plant) foundry at Swidnice had two electric furnaces for non-ferrous metal casting.

14. In early 1956, a lecture delivered at the Krakow Polytechnicum stated that the combined output of all Polish iron foundries amounted to two million tons per annum.

15. Poland exported coke to the USSR, East Germany, Bulgaria,

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16. Attached is a sketch and legend of the Bobrek foundry.

LEGEND

A. Foundry area, about 1000 x 2000 m.

B. Coke dump

1. Main entrance to the plant.

2. Administration building (old).

3. Administration building (new).

4. Entrance to No. 2.

5. Entrance to No. 3.

6. Power station of theplant.

7. Coking plant of the foundry.

8. Toolmaking shop.

9. Three 30 m. high furnaces.

10. Steel casting plant.

11. Steel rolling mill.

12. Steel rolling mill and processing plant.

13. Secondary entrance.

14. Entrance to the ore roasting plant.

15. The ore roasting plant.

16. Road to Rokitnica.

17. Road to Bytom.

18. Road to Zabrze.